

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW
ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH
PO BOX 94946
LINCOLN, NE 68509-4946

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Crime Commission Update



December 2010

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice
Dave Heineman, Governor
Michael Behm, Executive Director

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301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 94946
Lincoln, NE 68509-4946
(402) 471-2194
(402) 471-2837 = FAX

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<http://www.ncc.ne.gov>

Dave Heineman, Governor

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

At the time of this writing, the NU football team is stinging from their loss at College Station, Texas after several questionable 'yellow flags' were thrown. However, with Colorado scheduled the day after Thanksgiving, the Cornhuskers can't focus on the past and must concentrate on their next objective-Colorado.

Concentrating on the next objective and reinforcing positive thinking not only applies to sports, but to our current fiscal situation within the Crime Commission, as a state agency. Certainly, we have faced many challenges with our budget reductions. However, our staff have taken these challenges and reacted in a positive manner each work day.

I congratulate them for doing more with less and continuing their professional approach of service and support throughout Nebraska to our clients-the citizens of Nebraska. In addition, the State of Nebraska proudly honored staff for their years of service ranging from ten to forty years of service in October. I'd like to recognize Marilyn Keelan for her 40 years of service and Bruce Ayers for his thirty-five years of service. Both exemplify a long valued tradition of service to the Crime Commission and I thank them.

Our challenges with budget issues will continue into the near future and I'll predict our staff will continue to serve our state and meet our goals in spite of fiscal challenges. One can only hope, our own Cornhuskers will also meet their challenges and overcome the 'yellow flags' of the past, to achieve their goal of defeating Colorado on November 26th.

Go Huskers!

Michael Behm
-Executive Director

Online Searches for Nebraska Crime Statistics

On November 29th the FBI introduced an online database tool for Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics at www.ucrdatatool.gov. Users can perform queries based upon year, agency, and type of crime from 1985 to 2009. The queries only provide data for cities with a population of 10,000 and over and for counties with a population of 25,000 and over. Statewide totals are available from 1960 to 2009.

We also want to remind everyone that the Crime Commission has a query based data tool for ALL reporting agencies in the state from 2000 to 2009. Users can build their own query by choosing different options for either offenses or arrests. The link to this site is www.ncc.ne.gov/statistics/data_search/arrest.htm.

Unlike the FBI's query site, the Commission's site is updated whenever new or additional statistics are received.

OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION

2010 Office of Violence Prevention Grant

In 2010, the Nebraska Legislature approved another \$350,000 for a second Office of Violence Prevention grant. The grant approval and award process is currently underway. In 2009, the Legislature approved \$350,000 for an initial Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) Grant. Successful applicant organizations are currently providing evaluation data quarterly to the OVP and the Crime Commission.

The deadline for 2010 grant applications was September 24, and 10 applications were received. Of the 10 applications, three were from "out-state" while seven were submitted by governmental subdivisions or organizations representing or operating within the Omaha metropolitan area. The Grant Review was conducted by the Office of Violence Prevention's Advisory Council, the Director of the Office of Violence Prevention, with support from the Nebraska Crime Commission Grant Administration staff on Nov. 12,

2010. The Advisory Council is in the process of informing applicants of the recommendations, and those findings will be forwarded to the Crime Commission for final determination at the January Crime Commission meeting.

Gang and Street Crime Training

The Office of Violence Prevention, along with the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, the Midwest Gang Investigators, and the Department of Corrections completed a "Gang and Street Crime Training" program across Nebraska in September. The group logged over 1400 miles by traveling to Gering, Kearney, Norfolk and Bellevue, and provided training to representatives of local law enforcement, corrections officials, and community leaders on gang suppression, intervention and prevention strategies.

Mike Friend
Director, State Office of Violence Prevention
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-3813 (Office)
402-416-4129 (Cell)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE VIDEO LIBRARY

The following videos have been added to the library and are available for loan:

PITBULLS AND DOG FIGHTING (DVD)

25 Minutes Line of Duty: 2009 AD

Dog fighting is a crime in all fifty states and requires a law enforcement response. Other crimes are being committed during dog fights, most prominently alcohol violations and betting. This program shows scenes of dog fights and gives tips on how to investigate these crimes and collect evidence. The point is made that animal abuse can easily lead to violent crimes against people.

BIG RIG STOPS (DVD)

15 Minutes Line of Duty: 2009 AD

The techniques for making a traffic stop involving a big rig truck are very different from stops of passenger cars. This video demonstrates approach techniques and safe interrogation of drivers and passengers.

This is an excellent video for in-service or refresher training.

VICTIM IMPACT: LISTEN AND LEARN (DVD)

57 Minutes Office for Victims of Crime: 2010 AD

This program contains fourteen short segments. Each segment is an interview with a crime victim. These victims share their experiences and demonstrate the ripple effect that one crime can have on the victim and their families. Crimes include homicide, domestic violence, assault, arson, child abuse, and drunk driving.

This video is an excellent training resource for victim service providers and can be useful to show to offenders so they can see how their criminal behavior harms others.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE (DVD)

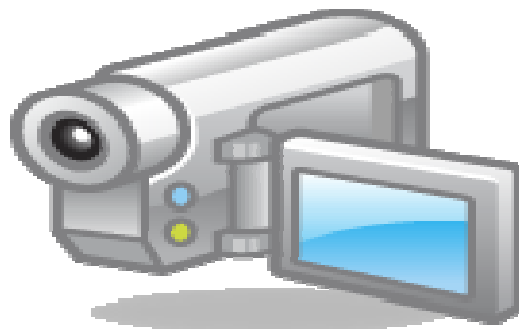
23 Minutes Line of Duty: 2009 AD

This video documents an incident in Huron, South Dakota where a teen boy attacked his family. He killed his mother and injured his sister using a sword. Interviews with the cops that responded explain what they did during the incident. The boy was ultimately shot and killed by the police. The program contains "lessons learned" and the importance of preparation and planning.

DEALING WITH THE MENTALLY ILL (DVD)

54 Minutes In The Line of Duty: 2009 AD

This program features the nationally-recognized program created by the Albuquerque, New Mexico police department which presents scenarios and training for dealing with mentally ill persons. Included in the video are segments on (1) the problem of mental illness, (2) recognizing abnormal behavior, (3) the officer's role, (4) critical points to remember, (5) using force, (6) control and compassion, and (7) the worst mistake an officer can make.



GRANTS DIVISION UPDATE

Lisa Stamm

Lisa Stamm has been promoted to Chief of the Grants Division. She previously was the Federal Aid Administrator for our Victims of Crimes Act and Violence Against Women Act grant funds.

Merry Wills

Merry Wills is the Nebraska Crime Commission's (NCC) new Juvenile Compliance Monitor/County Aid Administrator. Merry joined the Grants Division in April, 2010. She brings to the team over 30 years of experience in the not-for-profit arena working with youth and family. Merry has spent the last twenty years as an administrator with CEDARS, a child caring agency located in Lincoln, NE. There, she provided leadership overseeing the operations of numerous residential services for abused, neglected and homeless youth. Merry has an extensive history in program development, management, community partnerships, staff development and grant writing. Since 1991, Merry has also been a federal Runaway and Homeless Youth program monitor for the US Department of Health and Human Services, Family and Youth Services Bureau.

John R. Justice Student Loan Re-payment Program

On September 15th, 2010 the Crime Commission received the FY 2010 John R. Justice (JRJ) Student Loan Repayment Program. The JRJ Student Loan Repayment Program is a new federal program that will be administered by the Crime Commission. The purpose of the program is to encourage lawyers to enter and be retained as full-time public defenders and public criminal prosecutors. Selected public prosecutors and defenders will receive educational loan repayments if they promise to remain as a public prosecutor or defender in Nebraska for at least three years. In addition, priority will be given to lawyers with high debt-to-income ratios.

The Crime Commission announced JRJ funds on October 20th 2010; applications were due to the Crime Commission on November 30th, 2010. Marketing and outreach was conducted through the Nebraska Bar Association, Nebraska County Attorney's Association and the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorney's Association. JRJ applicants will be approved at the Janu-

ary 2011 Crime Commission meeting.

For further information, please contact
Lisa.Stamm@nebraska.gov.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER

Employee Recognition—Three NLETC employees were recognized by Governor Heineman October 12th for their years of service to the State of Nebraska. Dave Stolz was recognized for 15 years of service; Deb Houdek and Deputy Director Urbanek were recognized for 20 years.

COPS Seminar—The Nebraska Community Colleges Criminal Justice Department's, *Career Opportunities & Professions Seminar* was held at NLETC on October 7th. Over 230 students from across the state attended the full-day seminar that introduced them to our facility and covered topics of Polygraph, Cybercrime, MILO, Driving Simulator, Firearms Demonstration, Defensive Tactics, Arson Investigation, Fingerprinting and NSP Demonstrations. Next year will feature Federal law enforcement and will be held in Norfolk.

HVAC Project—the Department of Administrative Services hired Advanced Engineering Systems of Lincoln to draft plans for the HVAC & Energy upgrades to the original 1980 portion of our facility. Schematic design work is currently underway with actual construction projected to start in March, 2011. The project will add a closed-loop geothermal system and heat pumps using existing duct work and piping where possible. Wells will be located on site to supply the loop. Old dormitories will get upgraded room heating & air conditioning units. The 1980s building will get new lighting throughout. The building will remain open during construction and training will take place around the construction. Wind and solar options were cut from the project due to initial outlay expenses vs. recapture time on the investment. The 309 Task Force for Building Renewal is funding the project.

Nebraska Department of Education—conducted their audit of the Training Center for the purpose of credentialing us for the Department of Veterans Affairs. The report commented that our Registrar, Cheryl “Terri” Gonzales “was very prepared and all records were complete and very well organized.”

Outside track has had a 2 inch asphalt overlay and is in the process of curing. The track was out of service for several months earlier this year. The project was \$128,000 and the Training Center saved \$10,000 by having its own DAS staff do the shoulder work. Savings in our buildings budget operations and savings in utilities helped to make the project possible. It is now open but we are restricting the outside track to police cars only in order to prolong the life of the track (no heavy trucks).

Thank you--To Lynn Rex, Executive Director of the Nebraska League of Municipalities and Michael Nolan, Executive Director of League Association of Risk Management, for bringing nationally recognized speaker and attorney, Jack Ryan of the Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute to Nebraska to present his program, *Twelve (12) High Risk Critical Tasks*, which create liability exposure for local governments. The League funding for Ryan’s work also brought model law enforcement policies to Nebraska. This will offer dividends into the future as Nebraska law enforcement is able to have Nebraska-law specific model policies for agencies to use in formulating or training on police best practices.

As a result of workshops held over July and August, over 128 law enforcement practitioners attended workshops that coached administrators on taking proactive steps to prevent foreseeable exposure to risk litigation. Administrators learned the rationale behind the policies, how they were formulated, how they are court defensible, and how they can be updated as court decisions impact these policies in the future.

The Training Center was proud to participate in this rare offering of executive level training and was especially grateful that due to the work of the League of Nebraska Municipalities and the League Association of Risk Management, the training was brought across the state at no charge to participants or their local governments.

This single effort advanced the profession of law enforcement in Nebraska by offering law enforcement agencies best practices specific for Nebraska that if adopted by administrators, could reduce citizen dissatisfaction in law enforcement policies, reduce citizen complaints, and reduce costly litigation due to foreseeable liability exposure. Again, thank you for making this possible for Nebraska.

William Muldoon
Director, Nebraska Training Center

NOTES.....

- The next meeting of the Nebraska Crime Commission is scheduled for January 28, 2011 at 9:30 AM in the State Office Building in Lincoln
- The results of the November 2, 2010 General Election for members of the State Legislature are as follows:

The 2011 Unicameral begins on January 5, 2011.

District 2	Dave Pankonin (incumbent)
District 4	Pete Pirsch (incumbent)
District 6	John E. Nelson (incumbent)
District 8	Burke J. Harr
District 10	Bob Krist (incumbent)
District 12	Steve Lathrop (incumbent)
District 14	Jim Smith
District 16	Lydia N. Brasch
District 18	Scott Lautenbaugh (incumbent)
District 20	Brad Ashford (incumbent)
District 22	Paul Schumacher
District 24	Greg L. Adams (incumbent)
District 26	Amanda M. McGill (incumbent)
District 28	Bill Avery (incumbent)
District 30	Norman Walman (incumbent)
District 32	Russell J. Karpisek (incumbent)
District 34	Annette M. Dubas (incumbent)
District 36	John M. Wightman (incumbent)
District 38	Tom Carlson (incumbent)
District 40	Tyson Larson
District 42	Thomas F. Hansen (incumbent)
District 44	Mark R. Christensen (incumbent)
District 46	Danielle Conrad (incumbent)
District 48	John N. Harms (incumbent)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM THE STAFF OF THE CRIME COMMISSION



THOUGHT(S) FOR THE DAY ON CHRISTMAS:

“Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people once a year.”

~ Victor Borge

“Merry Christmas movie house! Merry Christmas, Emporium! Merry Christmas, you wonderful old Building and Loan.”

~ Jimmy Stewart in It's A Wonderful Life

“That’s the true spirit of Christmas; people being helped by people other than me.”

~ Jerry Seinfeld

“The worst gift is a fruitcake. There is only one fruitcake in the entire world, and people keep sending it to each other”

~ Johnny Carson

“A Merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world!”

~Charles Dickens, from A Christmas Carol